posed that the cost of this scheme should be shared by Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Surface Transport also. The State Government has been advised by the Ganga Flood Control Commission to update the project proposals in the light of the behaviour of river during the floods of the recent years and also for cost escalation. The response of the State Government is awaited.

Government of West Bengal is spending about Rs. 2 to 3 crores annually on the palliative protection measures in Murshidabad district in critical reaches. The Farakka Barrage Project under Ministry of Water Resources is attending to the erosion problems from the considerations of safety to the Farakka Barrage and Jangipur Barrage; so far they have spent about Rs. 4 crores for the purpose. The Ministry of Railways have spent about Rs. 2 crores in two reaches considered critical from the conideration of safety to the railway track.

Tenu Ghat Dam, West Bengal

3596. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government has requested the Central Government to bring the Tenu Ghat Dam within the purview of the DVC Reservoir Regulation Committee;

(b) whether this proposal of the State Government conforms with the Inter-State Agreement between Bihar and West Bengal of 1978; and

(c) if so, what action Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal made by the Government of West Bengal is under study by the Government of Bihar.

Subarnarekha Irrigation Project, West Bengal

3597. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has since given final clearance to the Subarnarekha Irrigation Project involving an expenditure of about Rs. 230 crores; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Acceptance of the project would be considered in the Planning Commission after environmental clearances and forest clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are obtained by the State Government.

Clearance of Dehang and Subansiri Multi-Purpose Projects

3598. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURECS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1284 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the Central Government have since approved the Dehang and Subansiri multipurpose projects in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the stages of their implementation at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987

3599. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any advice has been sought from the Attorney-General on the Constitutional validity of certain provisions of the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987;

(b) if so, which provisions did this advice relate to; and

(c) what is the advice of the Attorney-General in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987 has brought in major changes in both substantive as well as procedural provisions of the Direct Taxes Acts. Whenever changes of this magnitude take place, Government does consult Law Ministry and, if necessary, also the Attorney-Gtneral. Such references|consultations are secret and meant for internal working and guidance and not for public disclosure. The information called for is about matters which are in their nature Secret and, therefore, cannot be disclosed.

Consumer and Wholesale Price Indices

3600. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest consumer price index and wholesale price index and the inflation rate as compared to the consumer and wholesale price indices of the last year;

(b) the weightage given to food items in consumer price index and wholesale price index keeping in view cereals, pulses and other food items;

(c) the items which are taken into account while arriving at consumer price index and wholesale index and the weightage given to each item; and

(d) whether the rising rentals of residential houses are reflected in the consumer price index and whether the names of other essential items are left out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The requisite information is given in the statement enclosed. (*See* below).

(d) The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (Base 1960=100) complied by Labour Bureau Simla, includes all the important goods and services (including rentals) which form part of the consumption basket of an average industrial worker.

Statement

(a) Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI) (Base : 1960=100) and Wholesale Price Index for All Commodities (WPI) (Base : 1970-71=100)

Date/month (latest)	Index	Inflation Rate (on a point to point basis)
CPI (January 1988)	753	9.4
WPI (as on week ended) 12-3-1988)	415 0 (P)	9.7

[P] Provisional.

(b) and (c) *Major group-wise weights in CPI & WPI*

(1) CPI (1960=100)

Group/sub-group	Weight in per cent)
Food*	60 92
Pan, Supari, Tobacco & Intoxicants	4 79
Fuel & Light	5.77
Housing	6.26
Clothing, Bedding & Footwear	8.54
Miscellaneous	13 72
General Index	100 00

* Consists of sub-groups cereals and products, pulses and products, oils and fats, meat, fish and eggs, milk and products, condiments and spices, vegetables and fruits and others. The centre-wise weights of individual commodities and items (total 1986) are given in the Labour Bureaus' Monograph on Working Class Consumer Price Index Numbers —India.